CLAIMS

What is claimed is:
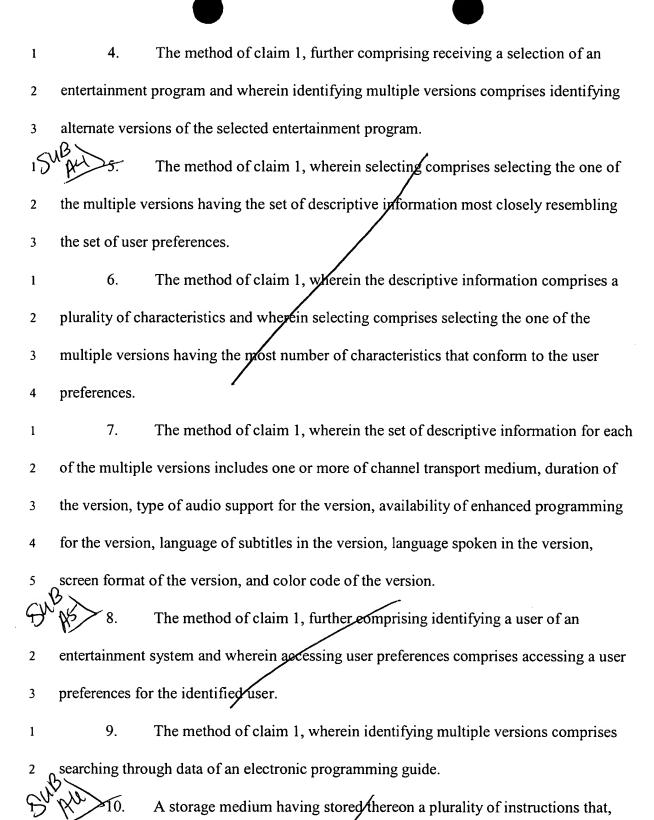
1   1.   A method comprising:

2   receiving entertainment programming input;

3   identifying multiple available versions of an entertainment program;

4   identifying, for each of the multiple versions, a set of descriptive information

5   regarding the respective version;

6   accessing user preferences; and

7   selecting one of the multiple versions for display based on a comparison of the

8   descriptive information to the user preferences.

1   2.   The method of claim 1, wherein identifying comprises identifying multiple

2   versions of the entertainment program that start within a threshold period of time of one

3   another.

1   3.   The method of claim 1, wherein at least some of the multiple versions are

2   provided on different transport media, the method further comprising:

3   identifying, for each of the one or more different channel transport media,

4   a set of descriptive information regarding the channel transport medium; and

5   wherein selecting comprises comparing the sets of channel transport

6   medium descriptive information to the user preferences.

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1   4.   The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving a selection of an

2 entertainment program and wherein identifying multiple versions comprises identifying

3 alternate versions of the selected entertainment program.

1 ~~SUB~~ ~~5.~~   The method of claim 1, wherein selecting comprises selecting the one of

2 the multiple versions having the set of descriptive information most closely resembling

3 the set of user preferences.

1   6.   The method of claim 1, wherein the descriptive information comprises a

2 plurality of characteristics and wherein selecting comprises selecting the one of the

3 multiple versions having the most number of characteristics that conform to the user

4 preferences.

1   7.   The method of claim 1, wherein the set of descriptive information for each

2 of the multiple versions includes one or more of channel transport medium, duration of

3 the version, type of audio support for the version, availability of enhanced programming

4 for the version, language of subtitles in the version, language spoken in the version,

5 screen format of the version, and color code of the version.

~~SUB~~ ~~8.~~   The method of claim 1, further comprising identifying a user of an

2 entertainment system and wherein accessing user preferences comprises accessing a user

3 preferences for the identified user.

1   9.   The method of claim 1, wherein identifying multiple versions comprises

2 searching through data of an electronic programming guide.

~~SUB~~ ~~10.~~   A storage medium having stored thereon a plurality of instructions that,

2 when executed by a processor, result in:

3   receiving entertainment programming input;

4   identifying multiple available versions of an entertainment program;

5   identifying, for each of the multiple versions, a set of descriptive information

6   regarding the respective version;

7   accessing user preferences; and

8   selecting one of the multiple versions for display based on a comparison of the

9   descriptive information to the user preferences..

1   11.   The storage medium of claim 9, wherein the plurality of instructions, when

2   executed by the processor, further result in identifying multiple versions of the

3   entertainment program that start within a threshold period of time of one another.

1   12.   The storage medium of claim 9, wherein at least some of the multiple

2   versions are provided on different transport media, wherein the plurality of instructions,

3   when executed by the processor, further result in:

4   identifying, for each of the one or more different channel transport media,

5   a set of descriptive information regarding the channel transport medium; and

6   selecting by comparing the sets of channel transport medium descriptive

7   information to the user preferences.

1   13.   The storage medium of claim 9, wherein the plurality of instructions, when

2   executed by the processor, further result in receiving a selection of an entertainment

3   program and identifying alternate versions of the selected entertainment program.

1   14.   The storage medium of claim 9, wherein the plurality of instructions, when

2   executed by the processor, further result in selecting the one of the multiple versions of

3   the entertainment program having the set of descriptive information most closely

4   resembling the set of user preferences.

1   15.   The storage medium of claim 9, wherein the set of descriptive information

2   for each of the multiple versions includes one or more of channel transport medium,

3   duration of the version, type of audio support for the version, availability of enhanced

4   programming for the version, language of subtitles in the version, language spoken in the

5   version, screen format of the version, and color code of the version.

1   16.   (Amended) An apparatus comprising:

2   a program guide controller to receive entertainment programming input;

3   a selection controller coupled to the program guide controller to identify multiple

4   available versions of an entertainment program, to identify, for each of the multiple

5   versions, a set of descriptive information regarding the respective version, to access user

6   preferences and to select one of the multiple versions for display based on a comparison

7   of the descriptive information to the user preferences; and

8   a device controller, coupled to the selection controller, to display the selected one

9   of the multiple versions of the entertainment program.

1   17.   The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the selection controller is also to

2   identify multiple versions of the entertainment program that start within a threshold

3   period of time of one another.

1   18.   The apparatus of claim 16, wherein at least some of the multiple versions

2   are provided on different transport media and wherein the selection controller is further

3   to:

4   identify, for each of the one or more different channel transport media, a

5   set of descriptive information regarding the channel transport medium; and

6   choose one of the multiple versions for display based on the sets of

7   descriptive information.

1   SUB
1   AT   19.   The apparatus of claim 16, wherein in selecting one of the multiple

2   versions for display, the selection controller is to select the one of the multiple versions of

3   the entertainment program having the set of descriptive information most closely

4   resembling the set of user preferences.

1   20.   The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the descriptive information comprises

2   a plurality of characteristics and wherein in selecting the selection controller is to select

3   the one of the multiple versions having the most number of characteristics that conform to

4   the user preferences.

1   21.   The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the set of descriptive information for

2   each of the multiple versions includes one or more of duration of the version, type of

3   audio support for the version, availability of enhanced programming for the version,

4   language of subtitles in the version, language spoken in the version, screen format of the

5   version, and color code of the version.

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